

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Neuruppin Airfield

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1. At 11 a.m. on 9 September 1951, 18 MiG-15s [redacted] were observed parked at Neuruppin airfield. Two of the planes were marked by a red ring around their air intakes. Two biplanes and 2 single-engine planes were also seen. A hedge of pine trees, 4 or 5 meters high and 50 to 70 long, was about half way between the eastern end of the runway and the hangars and blocked the view. There was no flying.
2. In the afternoons of 11 and 15 September, only four MiG-15s with red rings around their air intakes were observed at the eastern edge of the runway. At 5 p.m. on 18 September, there was intensive flying at the field in clear weather. The cloud base was 1,000 meters. The flights were made in tight formations below the clouds. The training standard appeared excellent. At 5 p.m. on 20 September, the same type of flying activities was observed as on 18 September.
3. Between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. on 12 September, 14 MiG-15s and four planes of the alert flight [redacted] were observed parked at the field. Three tank trucks and six trucks were also seen. A group of trees was observed for the first time at the field. A truck trailer fitted with a plexiglass cupola from which a green-white flag was flying was standing about 200 meters east of the trees. There was no flying. Between 2 and 3 p.m. on 13 September, the same aircraft as seen on 12 September were observed at the field in addition to 3 single-engine planes with radial engines and 3 biplanes. There was no flying.
4. On 14 September, 10 MiG-15s, 4 MiG-15s covered with tarpaulins, and the alert flight were observed at the field. Between 3:13 and 3:14 p.m., 10 MiG-15s took off in groups of two, climbed to an altitude of 5,000 to 6,000 meters and practiced formation flying. Between about 5 p.m. and 5:10 p.m., the planes returned in wedge formations and landed individually. [redacted]
5. From 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. on 15 September, 14 MiG-15s covered with tarpaulins, 3 single-engine planes with radial engines, and 3 biplanes were parked in front of the hangars of the field. [redacted] There was no flying. Trucks [redacted] and tank truck [redacted] entered the main gate of the installation. In the afternoon of the same day an air force detail [redacted]

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of 1 officer and 15 EM was seen laying a telephone cable near Gentsstrasse.
 Tracks [] loaded with telephone cable reels, were seen
 at the same time on Wittstocker Allee.

6. At 9 a.m. on 17 September, 4 MiG-15s covered with tarpaulins, 3 single-engine
 planes fitted with radial engines, 3 biplanes, and the alert flight, composed of
 4 MiG-15s [] were parked at the field. There were intermittent showers
 with a strong wind. Shortly after 9 a.m., the airfield was crossed by a formation
 of 10 MiG-15s whose take-offs had not been observed. []

It appeared that the pilots of the planes were exchanged. Six tank trucks
 approached six MiG-15s from the rear. A soldier climbed on the left wing of each
 plane to hold the hose of the fuel truck. The six planes were refueled in about
 20 minutes. Afterwards, the remaining four MiG-15s were refueled in the same
 way. Thereupon, starter carriages were brought and between 10:40 and 10:50 a.m.,
 the planes took off in five groups of two to practice formation flying over the
 field. No landings were observed prior to noon.

7. Between 6 and 8:15 a.m. on 18 September, 14 MiG-15s covered with tarpaulins and
 4 alert planes without numbers were observed at the field. There was no flying. At
 10 a.m. on 19 September, 10 MiG-15s covered with tarpaulins, 4 [] MiG-15s
 serving as alert planes, 3 single-engine planes fitted with radial engines, and
 3 biplanes were observed at the field. There was a 7/10 to 9/10 cloudiness, and
 the cloud base was at 3,000 meters. Visibility was good and there were intermittent
 showers. Between 10 and 10:05 a.m., []
 took off individually for flights above the clouds. The same planes were observed
 landing; between 11:55 a.m. and 12:03 p.m.

8. From 10 a.m. to noon on 20 September, 10 MiG-15s covered with tarpaulins, 3
 single-engine planes, 3 biplanes, and the alert flight of four planes []
 [] were parked at the field.
 Four [] MiG-15s took off individually for aerobatics lasting about 20
 minutes. These activities continued until noon. From 9 to 10 a.m. on 21
 September, the same aircraft observed on the previous day were seen at the
 field. There was no flying.

9. All MiG-15s observed at the field were fitted with two auxiliary fuel tanks. The
 aircraft had a one man crew when aloft. Four [] MiG-15s and the MiG-15s
 [] had
 black wing tips. On 22 September, aircraft crates 6 x 2.5 x 1.5 meters were seen
 in hangar Da.

10. On 12 September, 21 MiG-15s, 4 single-engine planes, and 3 biplanes were parked
 at the field. Three MiG-15s were observed aloft. On 15 September, 26 MiG-15s,
 4 single-engine planes, and 4 biplanes were observed at the field. On 22 September,
 17 MiG-15s, 2 single-engine planes, and 4 biplanes were seen at, and 4 MiG-15s
 over the field. All the MiG-15s were fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks on their
 wings. They were marked by red rings around their air intakes and black stripes
 20 cm wide on their wing tips. *

* [] Comment. According to the report, Neuruppin airfield is still occupied by a
 fighter regiment equipped with about 30 MiG-15s in addition to some PO-2s and
 Ial-11s. []

[] The recently
 observed cluster of trees or hedge on the landing field is believed to be a
 camouflage device. A dummy woods was temporarily observed also at Laerz airfield.
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